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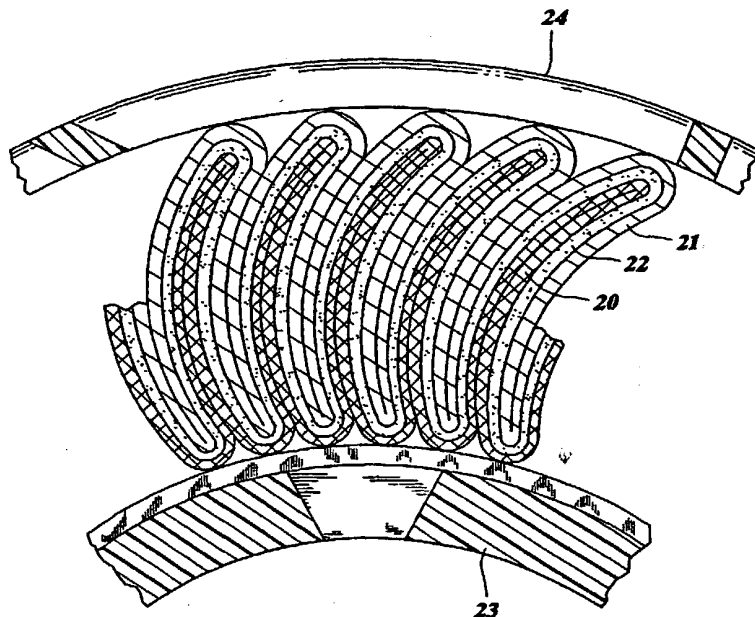
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(54) Title: **FILTER ELEMENTS AND FILTERING METHODS**



(57) Abstract: A filter element includes a filter layer and a functional drainage layer containing a functional material disposed on an upstream and/or a downstream side of the filter layer. The functional drainage layer can provide drainage for the filter layer as well as treat a fluid passing through it.

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